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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--27 JULY 1963

1. PORTUGUESE COLONIES:

A. AMBASSADOR KAISER IN DAKAR REPORTS THAT PORTUGUESE FORCES IN GUINEA ARE EXPERIENCING CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN KEEPING SUPPLY LINES OPEN TO KEY TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

B. AN EMBASSY OFFICIAL WHO WAS RECENTLY IN GUINEA SAYS THAT THE TRAINING, EQUIPMENT AND MORALE OF THESE FORCES LEAVE "MUCH TO BE DESIRED."

C. WE ARE ENCOURAGING THE FOUR AFRICAN MINISTERS WHO PRESENTED THE CASE AGAINST PORTUGAL TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHETHER THEY SHOULD NOT TAKE UP NOGUEIRA'S INVITATION TO VISIT PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN COLONIES.

2. COMMUNIST CHINA:

A. MAO'S CHINA GREETED THE INITIALING OF A TEST BAN AGREEMENT WITH NEW INTIMATIONS THAT IT STANDS ON THE THRESHOLD OF A NUCLEAR CAPABILITY, AND WON'T BE "CHEATED."

B. WE DETECT AN ELEMENT OF WHISTLING IN THE DARK HERE.

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THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE

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FOR A CHINESE TEST WOULD BE NEXT YEAR, WITH 1965 OR 1966 MUCH MORE LIKELY.

3. THE KURDS:

A. SOME 6,000 KURDISH REFUGEES FROM IRAQ ARE POSING A PROBLEM TO THE IRANIANS.

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B. TEHERAN FEARS THAT A NUMBER OF COMMUNISTS AND QASIMITES ARE INCLUDED. THE IRANIAN AUTHORITIES WILL TRY TO CUT THESE OUT OF THE MAIN GROUP FOR RETURN TO IRAQ.

C. [REDACTED]

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D. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] WE DOUBT THAT THE IRAQI FORCES WILL BE ANY MORE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS ATTEMPT THAN THEY HAVE ON EARLIER DRIVES.

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4. GUATEMALA - BRITISH HONDURAS:

A. THE PERALTA REGIME IS FOLLOWING UP ITS SEVERANCE OF RELATIONS WITH LONDON OVER BRITISH HONDURAS BY STEPPING UP MILITARY ACTIVITY NEAR THE BORDER.

B. [REDACTED]

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C. PERALTA SEEMS TO BE TILTING AT WINDMILLS HERE. HE IS PROBABLY MORE CONCERNED OVER USING THE EMOTIONAL ISSUE OF BRITISH HONDURAS TO IMPROVE HIS DOMESTIC STANDING THAN HE IS ABOUT A MILITARY THREAT FROM ACROSS THE BORDER.

5. CUBA-VENEZUELA:

A. CASTRO HENCHMAN CHE GUEVARA SAID LAST WEEK THAT US-CUBAN RELATIONS WERE NOT LIKELY TO IMPROVE MUCH, EVEN IF THERE WERE A US-SOVIET DETENTE, SINCE CASTRO IS DETERMINED TO AID

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OTHER REVOLUTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA.

B. GUEVARA, WHO HAS BEEN IN ALGERIA SINCE EARLY THIS MONTH, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT REVOLUTIONS IN PROGRESS, AS IN VENEZUELA, WERE THE FIRST, NOT THE LAST.

C. IN VENEZUELA CASTRO-AIDED TERRORISTS MADE A BIG WEEK OF IT. ON THURSDAY ALONE, THEY SPARKED A LARGE-SCALE BREAKOUT FROM CARACAS' MAIN PRISON, DAMAGED AN IMPORTANT OIL PIPELINE, AND BLEW UP AT LEAST THREE HIGHWAY BRIDGES.

D. EARLIER IN THE WEEK THEY OCCUPIED TWO SMALL TOWNS IN AN AREA WHERE GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE STAGED STRONG ANTI-GUERRILLA OPERATIONS.

6. NOTES:

A. BOLIVIA: PRESIDENT PAZ IS GIRDING HIS LOINS FOR FURTHER TROUBLE WITH THE TIN MINERS. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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B. SINO-INDIAN BORDER: PEIPING'S DESIRE TO KEEP A TRAINED EYE ON THE FORTHCOMING US-UK-INDIAN AIR DEFENSE EXERCISES AS WELL AS ON OTHER ASPECTS OF INDIAN MILITARY COOPERATION WITH THE WEST PROBABLY PROMPTED IT TO RETURN A MILITARY ATTACHE TO NEW DELHI AFTER A FIVE-MONTH ABSENCE.

C. MALAYSIAN SUMMIT: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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(CONT'D)

[REDACTED]

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D. SWITZERLAND: WE READ THE GUARDED REMARKS LAST WEDNESDAY OF DEFENSE CHIEF CHAUDET AS ANOTHER INDICATION OF SWISS INTEREST IN GETTING TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE SAID THAT ATTENTION MUST BE DEVOTED TO RESEARCH ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS "APPROPRIATE TO THE DEFENSIVE MISSION" OF SWISS FORCES. RUMORS ARE CIRCULATING IN BERN THAT THE SWISS HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE FRENCH ON THIS SUBJECT.

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